

What is claimed is:

1. A carrier of circuit boards comprising:
a base frame having a plurality of first card guides disposed on its upper
5 surface, the first card guides for securing respective first side edges of a corresponding plurality of circuit boards;
a plurality of second card guides for securing respective second side edges of the plurality of circuit boards; and
a plurality of adjustment members, each being for individually adjusting a
10 distance between a respective pair of one first card guide and one second card guide.
2. The carrier of claim 1 wherein each adjustment member includes:
at least one support; and
a securing mechanism structured to secure the respective second card guide for
15 snugly holding one of the plurality of circuit boards between the first card guide and the second card guide.
3. The carrier of claim 2 wherein the at least one support includes at least one
slotted rail disposed normal to the upper surface of the base frame, and the securing
20 mechanism is structured to set a location of the guide carrying member along the at least one slotted rail.
4. The carrier of claim 3 wherein the securing mechanism includes at least one
threaded projection member that extends through a slot of the slotted rail, and a
25 threaded nut for receiving the threaded projection member.
5. The carrier of claim 4 wherein the nut is one of a T-slot nut and a wedge nut.
6. The carrier of claim 3 wherein the at least one slotted rail includes at least one
30 T-slotted rail.

7. The carrier of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of guide carrying members that individually carry respective ones of the second card guides essentially parallel to the base frame.
- 5 8. The carrier of claim 2 further comprising an alignment member having a series of projections,
wherein the at least one support includes two rails disposed normal to the upper surface of the base frame, at least one of the two rails having a track, and wherein the projections of the alignment member are engaged with the track, the
10 alignment member being moveable along the track, the guide carrying member being carried by the alignment member.
9. The carrier of claim 2 further comprising a ruler disposed on the at least one support.
- 15 10. The carrier of claim 2 wherein the at least one support includes at least one shaft disposed normal to the upper surface of the base frame, and the securing mechanism is structured to set a location of the guide carrying member along the at least one shaft.
- 20 11. The carrier of claim 10 wherein the securing mechanism includes a slide member slidably disposed on the shaft and structured to be changeable between a slide-preventing position and a slide-allowing position.
- 25 12. The carrier of claim 11 wherein the slide member is rotatable about the shaft.
13. The carrier of claim 11 wherein the slide member includes a spring-loaded release mechanism for allowing a user to change the securing mechanism between the slide-preventing position and the slide-allowing position.
- 30

14. The carrier of claim 1 further comprising a structural frame connected to the base frame.
- 5 15. The carrier of claim 14 further comprising at least one handle connected to one of the structural frame and the base frame.
16. The carrier of claim 14 wherein the plurality of adjustment members are connected to the structural frame and to the base frame.
- 10 17. The carrier of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of first connectors for electrically connecting to the plurality of circuit boards.
18. The carrier of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of second connectors for optically communicating with the plurality of circuit boards.
- 15 19. The carrier of claim 1 wherein at least one of the plurality of adjustment members is structured for individually adjusting a distance from the one adjustment member to an adjacent one of the plurality of adjustment members.
- 20 20. A method of preparing an arrangement of a plurality of circuit boards comprising providing a carrier for the plurality of circuit boards, the carrier including a base frame having a plurality of first card guides disposed on its upper surface, the first card guides for securing respective first side edges of a corresponding plurality of circuit boards, a plurality of second card guides for securing respective second side edges of the plurality of circuit boards, and a plurality of adjustment members, each being for individually adjusting a distance between a respective pair of one first card guide and one second card guide.
- 25 21. The method of claim 20 further comprising providing means for communication between ones of the plurality of circuit boards.
- 30

22. The method of claim 20 further comprising:
placing a first circuit board in a first slot formed by a first pair of one first card guide and one second card guide, the first slot having a first distance approximating a distance between first and second side edges of the first circuit board; and
5 placing a second circuit board in a second slot formed by a second pair of one first card guide and one second card guide, the second slot having a second distance approximating a distance between first and second side edges of the second circuit board, the second distance being different from the first distance.
- 10 23. The method of claim 22 further comprising communicating electrical information between the first and second circuit boards.
24. The method of claim 23 wherein the second circuit board performs at least one slave task for the first circuit board.
- 15 25. The method of claim 23 further comprising performing performance testing on the first and second circuit boards, wherein the performance testing requires cooperation between the first and second circuit boards.
- 20 26. The method of claim 25 wherein the communicating of electrical information operates to calibrate a performance of at least one of the first and second circuit boards.
- 25 27. The method of claim 22 further comprising supplying electrical power to at least one of the first and second circuit boards.
28. The method of claim 27 further comprising attaching a load to at least one of the first and second circuit board.
- 30 29. The method of claim 22 further comprising optically communicating with at least one of the first and second circuit boards.

30. A method comprising:
securing a first circuit board having a first width in a first slot disposed on a
surface of a carrier; and
5 securing a second circuit board having a second width in a second slot
disposed on the surface of the carrier and adjacent the first slot, the second width
being different from the first width,
wherein the securing utilizes card guides for abutting opposite edges of the
first and second circuit boards.
- 10
31. A method comprising providing a carrier having a single shelf for snugly
carrying, on-edge, a plurality of circuit boards having respectively different on-edge
vertical dimensions.
- 15
32. The method of claim 31 further comprising functionally interconnecting ones
of the plurality of circuit boards.
33. The method of claim 31 further comprising electrically testing the plurality of
circuit boards.
- 20
34. A carrier of circuit boards comprising:
means for securing respective first side edges of a corresponding plurality of
circuit boards;
means for securing respective second side edges of the plurality of circuit
25 boards; and
adjustment means for individually adjusting a distance between a respective
pair of one first card guide and one second card guide.
- 30